



## Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

# News

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### **Judges to speak at Boy Scout dinner** **For immediate release Friday, February, 5, 2010**

PRINCETON, W.Va. – Ninth Judicial Circuit Judges Omar Aboulhosn and Derek Swope will talk about their experiences as Eagle Scouts at an event at 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 8, 2010, marking the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the Boy Scouts of America.

The judges will be two of the distinguished scouts who will speak at a dinner and annual Court of Honor at the First United Methodist Church in Princeton. The dinner will honor the approximately twenty-five boys who are members of Troop One, which is sponsored by the Methodist Men at the church. Up to one hundred people are expected to attend the event.

Troop One is the oldest Boy Scout troop in Mercer County. It was founded in 1917, only ten years after the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated on February 8, 1910, and a year after the national group was chartered by Congress in 1916. Troop One was briefly inactive in the late 1950s but has been continuously chartered since 1962.

Judge Aboulhosn was a member of Troop One and earned his Eagle Badge in 1982.

“I know how important scouting was to me growing up, and I credit scouting for helping me to become a judge,” Judge Aboulhosn said. “Earning the Eagle Badge as a teenager helped to open many doors for me. I believe in the mission of the Boy Scouts so much that I still work in the Boy Scouts even though I do not have a son in scouting. Every opportunity that I have to speak about how scouting changed my life I will do so. I look forward to speaking to the scouts in attendance to encourage them to continue on their journey to earning their Eagle Badge.”

Judge Swope said, “The Boy Scouts is a very important means for young men to learn valuable skills that will help them throughout life. This is particularly true when one arrives at the rank of Eagle Scout.”

Judge Swope said that while it’s good for all boys to be in scouts, the work it takes to earn the Eagle Badge teaches self-reliance, physical strength, and perseverance. “Those are lessons that will help you throughout your life,” Judge Swope said.

